

Message Text

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21

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /085 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:RONEILL:RGH

APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

S/PR - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)

EUR/P - MR. JERABEK

IO/P - MR. BLACHLY

NEA/ARN - MR. BULLEN

AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

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R 222005Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

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AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
CINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

KUWAIT PASS BAGHDAD
GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL
CINCEUR FOR POLAD

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR
OCTOBER 21, 1975:

Q. CAN YOU GIVE U MR. SADAT'S ITINERARY, WHICH IS BEING
SO CLOSELY HELD?

A. I UNDERSTAND THE WHITE HOUSE IS PLANNING TO DO THIS.

Q. YOU TOLD US THAT YESTERDAY.

A. I CAN GIVE YOU EVERYTHING EXCEPT THE DATES. HE IS
GOING TO ARRIVE, AS I SAID YESTERDAY, IN WILLIAMSBURG.
I THINK I SAID
OCTOBER 26. HE WILL BE HERE IN WASHINGTON
THE 27TH AND 28TH AND THEREAFTER -- I THINK THIS OUGHT TO
BE ON BACKGROUND BY THE WAY -- HE WILL GO TO NEW YORK,
CHICAGO, HOUSTON, JACKSONVILLE. END BACKGROUND.

Q. THEN WHAT WILL HE DO WITH THE LAST SIX DAYS WHEN
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HE COMES BACK FROM JACKSONVILLE ON THE 31ST?

A. HES DUE BACK IN WASHINGTON AA I DON'T REALLY KNOW --
ON BACKGROUND, I THINK HE'S GOING TO ADDRESS A JOINT
SESSION OF CONGRESS. NOTHING OFFICIAL HAS BEEN
ANNOUNCED.

Q. I KNOW, BUT THERE'S ABOUT A SIX-DAY GAP I CAN'T

ACCOUNT FOR.

A. I CAN'T EITHER, BARRY, I DON'T HAVE THE DETAILS.

Q. HE'S DUE BACK IN WASHINGTON WHEN?

A. AFTER THE JACKSONVILLE VISIT. I DON'T HAVE THE DATES.
END BUCKGROUND.

SPOKESMAN: I HAVE ONE OTHER THING. WE HAVE HAD A
NUMBER OF QUERIES ABOUT HOW MANY OF THE OFFICES OF
AMERICAN BUSINESSES IN BEIRUT HAVE LEFT THE CITY BECAUSE
OF THE TROUBLES THERE. SOME OF THE REPORTS ON THE
SUBJECT HAVE GIVEN THE IMPRESSION THAT THERE HAS BEEN A
CONSIDERABLE EXODUS. IN FACT, OF THE THREE HUNDRED OR
SO AMERICAN FIRMS WITH OFFICES IN BEIRUT, ONLY ABOUT
25 HAVE LEFT, AND SOME OF THEM HAVE DEPARTED ONLY
TEMPORARILY, HAVE
MOVED PART OF THEIR OPERATIONS, OR HAVE
SENT OUT SOME OF THEIR DEPENDENTS. OF COURSE, IF THE
PRESENT TROUBLES CONTINUE WE ASSUME THAT FIRMS WILL BE
CONTINUING TO EVALUATE THEIR POSITION ON THIS.

Q. HAVE YOU GIVEN ANY ADVICE TO THESE BUSINESSMEN?

A. I DON'T THINK WE HAVE DIRECTLY. WE'VE BEEN KEEPING
IN TOUCH WITH THE AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY BUT WE'VE
BEEN LEAVING DECISIONS ON THIS MATTER TO THEIR JUDGMENT.

Q. WHAT WAS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF AMERICAN PERSONS THERE;
AND WHAT IS THE TOTAL NUMBER NOW?

A. I WOULD HAVE TO LOOK INTO IT, MARILYN. I DON'T
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HAVE THE INFORMATION WITH ME.

Q. BECAUSE IT WOULD SEEM THAT EVEN IF OFFICES REMAIN
OPEN--YOU SEEM TO BE CASTING ASPERSIONS ON REPORTS OF A
CONSIDERABLE EXODUS, AND I THINK TO KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE
HAD LEFT MIGHT CLARIFY THE ISSUE A LITTLE MORE.

A. I AGREE WITH YOU. I AM ONLY MAKING THIS
INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO YOU BECAUSE OF THE QUERIES WE
HAVE HAD ON IT.

Q. NOW YOU HAVE ANOTHER ONE.

A. OKAY.

Q. #JOHN, WHEN YOU SAY YOU HAVE QUERIES ARE YOU SAYING
THE PRESS OFFICE HAS HAD QUERIES FROM THE REPORTERS OR
THE DEPARTMENT HAS HAD QUERIES FROM OUTSIDE?

A. THE DEPARTMENT HAS HAD QUERIES FROM THE PRESS.

Q. ONLY PRESS QUERIES YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT. YOU ARE
NOT TALKING ABOUT BUSINESSMEN ASKING?

A. I DON'T KNOW IF IT IS LIMITED TO THAT, BUT I'M SAYING
THE PRESS HERE. THERE COULD HAVE BEEN OTHERS.

Q. ARE THINGS IN BEIRUT NOT AS BAD AS PRESS REPORTS
WOULD SEEM TO INDICATE?

A. I REALLY DON'T KNOW HOW TO COMPARE THE SITUATION AS
IT EXISTS WITH WHAT THE PRESS REPORTS ARE, BARRY, NOT
RIGHT NOW.

Q. I DON'T KNOW WHAT AN EXODUS IS, THOUGH I DON'T KNOW
HOW MANY FIRMS CONSTITUT AN EXODUS.

A. I THINK IT'S IN THE BIBLE SOMEWHERE (LAUGHTER).

INGERSOLL
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